

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Preliminary Findings for a General Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit for Certain Types of Asphalt Production Plants

Notice is hereby given that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Air Management (OAM) has developed a general Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit (FESOP) for certain types of asphalt plants. IDEM has created the general permit pursuant to the authority granted to IDEM under Title 326 of the Indiana Administrative Code in section 2-8-18.

The general permit sets out the specific air pollution control requirements that an asphalt plant would have to meet in order to operate. The permit calls for the source to comply with strict air pollution control requirements. Only asphalt plants that use baghouses for control of particulate matter emissions would be able to qualify for this type of permit. The general FESOP is very similar to the type of FESOPs IDEM has issued to such asphalt plants in the past. However, the permit includes emission limitations that are more stringent than the existing legal requirements. Production limitations are established for all plants that limit the permittee to less than fifty percent (50%) of the annual emissions of all pollutants that would be allowed under a regular FESOP. In addition, particulate emissions are limited for large plants to three one-hundredths (0.03) grains per dry standard cubic foot of exhaust regardless of whether the plant would locate in an area that is subject to that restrictive limit. Smaller plants are limited to four one-hundredths (0.04) grains per dry standard cubic foot of exhaust gas regardless of whether the plan is subject to that new source performance standard. It also requires different record keeping and compliance monitoring. The general permit would allow qualified plants to conduct a test of the air pollution emissions from the facility every seven (7) years, instead of every five (5) years, the previous requirement. IDEM retains the authority to require the additional air pollution emissions tests at any time. Due to the nature of the general FESOP and the requirements of 326 IAC 2-8-18, IDEM would issue a general FESOP to a qualified applicant without issuing a draft permit for public review and comment. Therefore, any interested individual should review the terms and conditions of the draft FESOP general permit at this time.

Copies of the draft FESOP general permit for certain types of asphalt plants and an accompanying Technical Support Document are available for examination at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Public File Room, 100 North Senate Avenue, Suite N1201, Indianapolis, Indiana. In addition, IDEM will make copies of the draft FESOP general permit for certain types of asphalt plants and an accompanying Technical Support Document available at IDEM regional offices, on IDEM's website at <http://www.state.in.us/idem/oam/permits> as well as at public libraries throughout the State of Indiana. For information on the library closest to you, call toll free at 1-800-451-6027, and ask for extension 2-0286.

Notice is also hereby given that until January 5, 2001, any interested person may comment in writing on why this draft FESOP general permit for certain types of asphalt plants should or should not be issued, and may submit written questions. Appropriate comments and questions should concern air quality issues related to the Title V air pollution control program, interpretation of the state and federal rules regarding the program, technical issues related to the program, or the effect that the operation of a source pursuant to the general FESOP would have on any aggrieved individuals. All public comments and questions, along with any supporting documentation, should be submitted in writing to Doug Wagner, IDEM, OAM, 100 North Senate Avenue, P.O. Box 6015, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206-6015.

Notice is also hereby given that until January 5, 2001, any interested individual may request, in writing, that IDEM convene a public hearing regarding the draft FESOP general permit for certain types of asphalt plants. All such requests should be submitted in writing to Doug Wagner, IDEM, OAM, 100 North Senate Avenue, P.O. Box 6015, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206-6015.

Questions and comments should be directed to Doug Wagner, IDEM, OAM, 100 North Senate Avenue, P.O. Box 6015, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206-6015, or at 317/232-0286 or toll free at 1-800-451-6027 extension 2-0286.